TO THE PARSON, VICAR or Curate, of and to everie of them.

BEING given to vnderſtand of certaine notorious abuſes within this Dioces, not reformable by ordinary courſes, ſo that for the redreſſe of them I ſhall be conſtrained to vſe meanes and puniſhments extraordinary; (Graſſantibus exemplis, pœnæ ſunt aggravandæ) I haue thought good to giue ſignification of my intent in this behalfe, to ſee, if happely the feare of that future puniſhment, may not effect that, which otherwiſe the example muſt.

1 Firſt therfore, whereas it is informed that notwithſtanding the late Proclamatiõ of our Soueraigne L. the Kings Maieſtie, ſtraightly commaunding a religious ſanctification of the Sabaoth day, the ſame is horribly prophaned euery where, by vſing vnlawfull games euen in the time of diuine ſeruice, and that oftentimes in the verie church-yard; by reaſon wherof it commeth to paſſe that many abſent themſelues from ſeruice, eſpecially in the after-noone: I muſt require you to admoniſh your pariſhioners, that hereafter they take heede of prophaning either ỹ Saboth, church, or churchyard;

and that in repayring vnto diuine ſeruice aſwell in the after-noone as in the fore-noone, they vſe ſuch diligence as by the law they are bound; aſſuring thē otherwiſe, to finde the vtter-moſt extremity of that puniſhment which the law will inflict.

2 Whereas cōplaint is made that many churches & chauncells lye vnrepaired; you are to admoniſh thē to whom it may appertaine, with all ſpeede conuenient to repaire and amend the ſame or elſe to expect ſuch puniſhment as there defects in that behalfe may ſeeme to deſerue

3 If you cannot finde meanes that your quarter ſermons may bee duely preached, make your repaire vnto me that I may take order for the ſame.

4 If already you be not ſufficiently authoriſed, I require you, that you preſume not to ſerue any Cure, or to preach within my Dioces, till by my ſelfe vnder my ſeale you be licenſed ſo to doe.

5 Whereas People are very backward in ſending their children vnto the Miniſter to be catechiſed, you ſhall doe well hereafter to admit none to the holy communion that haue not already receiued the ſame, except they be fit to bee confirmed by the Biſhop, that is, except they bee able to aunſwere to all the queſtions of the Catechiſme: And if I vnderſtand you receiue any that are not ſo qualified, you muſt make reckoning to aunſwere for the ſame.

6 Whereas many mariages clandeſtine and otherwiſe vnlawfull are daily made, & then ignorance is alleaged for excuſe of the fault; you ſhall vnderſtand, that you ought not to marry any perſons but in the church, & that between the howers of 8. & 12. in the fore noone, none within the compaſſe of thoſe times that are forbidden by law, none whoſe banes haue not bin lawfully asked 3. ſeuerall holy daies, without a diſpenſation for the ſame firſt had vnder the hand & ſeale of mee,

or

or M. Doctor Trevor my chauncellor and none other. If you shall hereafter offend in the premises, you are to be suspended ab officio & beneficio per triennium; wherein I advise you to hope for no favour.

7 Excommunicate persons (I understand) in almest all places of this Dioces are permitted to come to divin service; A great and an intollerable abuse. If hereafter you with the church-wardens do not cause them to be put out of ỳ church, I shall cause both you and them, as also the persons that so intrude themselves to be punished for the same. Hereof therefore you shal do wel to give warning unto your parishioners.

8 Whereas the Cathedrall church of this Dioces, not having to the valew of 10l. pro annum, omnibus oneribus deductis; is now fallen into such decay, as 500 Markes wil not repaire the same, so that it must needs in short time fall to the ground without some extraordinary relieft: I exhort you, that so often as you are called to any sicke persons of abilitie, especially when they shall make their Wills, you faile not to put them in minde of the necessity of the said church, ỳ to shew them how acceptable a thing it shall be to Almighty God, to contribute toward the sustentation of his house, as also howe honorable unto the party so contributing; in as much as there is a booke already provided, wherin the names of all such are to be registred for benefactors, as shall bestow upon the same in any liberall proportion.

9 Whereas I finde by continuall experience that much lande is dayly imbeziled frō the church, by reason that newe Incumbents want direction and notice of that belongeth to them: For prevention of this inconvenience in time to come, I think good to require you ỳ you procure under the hands of the best and most substantiall of your parish (as neere as you can) a testimoniall of the glebe that belongeth unto your church, declaring the nūber of acres, the names of every parcell, and the severall meeres or bounds of the same, the said

testimoniall to be written faire in one whole sheete of paper, (that with al the rest it may be bound vp into a booke) and to be delivered in vnto me before the feast of Easter next.

10 Whereas many outrages are dayly committed against Preachers, & Ministers of Gods word, not only in reprochfull and contemptuous speeches, but in laying violent hands vpon them: you are to admonish your parishioners from mee, that they take heede of offending in that kind of fault (which by to much lenity in those that ought to punish it, is growen intollerable) And if you know of any such, to signifie ẏ same vnto mee.

11 Whereas many hainous offences are daily committed against the lawes Ecclesiastical of his Maiesty, which being notoriously knowen in all the country, yet for feare, favour, or some other respect are never presented in any of our Generals or Visitatiõs: Let notice be given vnto your Wardens, Provors, and such other to whom it may appertaine, that if hereafter they be found negligent in their presentments, they shal assuredly find that punishment which by the law Ecclesiastical is appointed vnto periured persons.

12 Moreover that the offences aboue specified may not escape vnpunished, to the great dishonor of God, & the encrease of sinne: I shall pray you to intimate vnto mee the names of such of your neighbour-hood as are defamed for any of the saide Offences, with the quality of their crimes, that I may take order for the punishment of the same as appertaineth.

Matherne. Sept. 30. 1603.

Fr. Landaven.

FINIS.

COLLOQVII
INTER PRÆCIPVOS

aliquot *Germaniæ* Theologos, de conciliandis Ecclesiarum Evangelicarum dissidiis.

ANNO MDCXXXI.

Mense Martio *Lipsiæ* habiti

CONSIGNATIO
EX GERMANICO

in Latinum sermonem traducta.

Excusum Londini apud *Tho. Cotes*, pro *Humfredo Blunden*, apud quem prostat in *Colle frumentario*. 1637.